



THE NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

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“They treated me like a person, and they gave me hope.”
—94-year-old low-vision patient of the New England Eye Institute

Profiles in Vision: Changing Lives
Thursday, October 8
6 to 9 pm
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Museum

New England College of Optometry Celebrates 115 Years

As one of the world’s premier colleges of optometry, the New England College of Optometry (NECO) is celebrating its 115th anniversary and 40 years of partnering with Boston-area community health centers.

Health, corporate and foundation leaders will join faculty, students, and supporters for a gala evening on Thursday, October 8, 2009, from 6 to 9 pm at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Museum at Columbia Point in Boston. The evening will highlight some little-known facts about this Boston gem. For example:

- NECO provides 85,000 patient visits each year through its patient care and clinical education subsidiary, the New England Eye Institute (NEEI).
- 70% of those served come from disadvantaged populations.
- NEEI provides eye care at 45 clinical settings throughout Greater Boston, including homeless shelters, senior housing, public schools, programs for individuals with disabilities, and community health centers.

During the evening, NECO Interim President Clifford Scott will present the first-ever Profiles in Vision Award to James A. Hooley, former president and CEO of the nonprofit Neighborhood Health Plan, and James W. Hunt, president and CEO of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, in honor of their years of dedication and commitment to the College and to NEEI.

Numerous luminaries from Boston’s health care industry—including John Auerbach, commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health; Judy Ann Bigby, MD, secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services; and

Janet LaBreck, commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind—are expected to attend, along with Boston Public Schools Superintendent Carol R. Johnson and others.

The event will feature a short film about the College, and guests will have an opportunity to visit the museum's exhibits.

The New England College of Optometry and New England Eye Institute would like to thank the members of its Honorary Committee for this event: the late U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, U.S. Sen. John F. Kerry, U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, U.S. Rep. Michael E. Capuano, U.S. Rep. William D. Delahunt, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy, U.S. Rep. Stephen F. Lynch, U.S. Rep. Edward J. Markey, U.S. Rep. Richard E. Neal, U.S. Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, U.S. Rep. John F. Tierney, U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas, Mass. Sen. Richard T. Moore, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation President Jarrett T. Barrios, New England Council President and CEO James T. Brett, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care President and CEO (Interim) Bruce Bullen, Nixon Peabody LLP Partner and former Boston City Council President Lawrence S. DiCara, RBS Citizens, N.A., Senior Vice President Bruce Figueroa, Jordan Hospital President and CEO Peter Holden, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center President and CEO Paul F. Levy, Tufts Health Plan President and CEO James Roosevelt Jr., and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation Executive Director Karen Voci.

NECO and NEEI would also like to thank its corporate sponsors: Alcon Laboratories Inc., Essilor of America Inc., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Citizens Bank, HOYA Vision Care, Partners HealthCare, Tufts Health Plan, VISTAKON—Division of Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc., Walmart, Bausch & Lomb Inc., Burns & Levinson LLP, CooperVision, Luxottica, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Neighborhood Health Plan and Safilo Group.